

the committee (PRM) that shall be deemed to have the same rights, duties, and responsibilities as members of the staff of the Committee on Foreign Relations where specifically provided for in these rules.

(c) Restrictions.—

(1) The staff shall regard its relationship to the committee as a privileged one, in the nature of the relationship of a lawyer to a client. In order to protect this relationship and the mutual confidence which must prevail if the committee-staff relationship is to be a satisfactory and fruitful one, the following criteria shall apply, unless staff has consulted with and obtained, as appropriate, the approval of the Senate Ethics Committee and advance permission from the staff director (or the minority staff director in the case of minority staff):

(A) members of the staff shall not be identified with any special interest group in the field of foreign relations or allow their names to be used by any such group; and

(B) members of the staff shall not accept public speaking engagements or write for publication in the field of foreign relations.

(2) The staff shall not discuss their private conversations with members of the committee without specific advance permission from the Senator or Senators concerned.

(3) The staff shall not discuss with anyone the proceedings of the committee in closed session or reveal information conveyed or discussed in such a session unless that person would have been permitted to attend the session itself or is a member or staff of a relevant committee or executive branch agency and possesses an appropriate security clearance, or unless such communication is specifically authorized by the staff director or minority staff director. Unauthorized disclosure of information from a closed session or of classified information shall be cause for immediate dismissal and may, in certain cases, be grounds for criminal prosecution.

RULE 15—STATUS AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

(a) Status.—In addition to the foregoing, the Committee on Foreign Relations is governed by the Standing Rules of the Senate, which shall take precedence in the event of a clear inconsistency. In addition, the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the committee with respect to certain matters, as well as the timing and procedure for their consideration in committee, may be governed by statute.

(b) Amendment.—These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by a majority of the committee, provided that a notice in writing (including by electronic mail) of the proposed change has been given to each member at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at which action thereon is to be taken. However, rules of the committee which are based upon Senate rules may not be superseded by committee vote alone.

TRIBUTE TO JOE HACK

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, every Senator depends on their staff to provide them with information and advice on the issues. Every Senator knows the importance of having good staff who can respond to the questions and concerns their constituents may have in dealing with the Federal bureaucracy. And every Senator believes that their staff members are the most prepared, the most conscientious, and the most caring people in the U.S. Senate.

I know that my staff is. I have been fortunate with the people who have joined my team to work for the great State of Nebraska. I have been ex-

tremely fortunate that Joe Hack has been a member of Team Fischer since my very first day as a U.S. Senator.

Joe officially joined my team as my communications director on that first day. He was not new to the Senate; he had first arrived here as an 18-year-old intern. On our first day in 2013, he immediately got to work with his new boss in getting out press releases, reaching out to State and national media, and helping me continue my practice of writing a weekly column for media back home.

Joe never missed a beat. He helped guide me through the traditions and inner workings of the Senate and through the tunnels of the Russell Building.

After 2 years, Joe Hack became my chief of staff, the youngest chief in the Senate at that time. Joe set the tone I wanted for my office: Be professional, take your job seriously, be honest, get along with your colleagues, always respond to constituents, gather all the information we need on an issue and then get more, and work hard. Joe's closing to every email and every staff meeting was always, "Work harder." And he set the example for all of these.

Joe was involved in every major piece of legislation we have accomplished, from passing the first-ever paid family leave law to the FAST Act, our Internet of Things work, broadband, infrastructure, and agriculture issues. He guided the Omaha VA clinic from inception to completion, and he will see the Lincoln VA clinic open and the Offutt Air Force Base runway completely rebuilt. He knew the importance of securing funding for Nebraska highway and water projects and for the continued growth of our university system. He was part of every success.

Joe knows Nebraska, and Nebraskans know Joe. He knew instinctively that the people of our State are why we do this work. We represent them. Joe has attended statehood dinners in our Capitol Rotunda, driven a combine in Grand Island, had meals at Ole's Big Game Bar, and gone to Husker tailgates and games. He loves browsing at Cabela's and a good meal at Rosita's. He knows which Nebraska hotels have the best gym, where every Runza drive-thru is located in the State, and where to find the best steaks. He has shared BBQ at our ranch with family, neighbors and the U.S. Secretary of Ag. He is also addicted to Colby Ridge popcorn balls. He buys them in bulk, and he doesn't share.

He has attended countless Nebraska breakfasts and constituent meetings in Washington. He has worked hard for the people of Nebraska.

Joe has traveled the vastness of our State, understanding its diversity and standing in awe while viewing our skies, sunrises and sunsets, our clouds, and the majesty of our night stars. He fell in love with "The Good Life". A New Jersey guy became a Nebraskan.

Joe has been by my side since my very first day in the Senate, and now,

he is moving on to new opportunities. He has been a mentor to many, my trusted policy and political adviser, and a leader whose admonition to "work harder" became our office mantra. Joe has smoothed the waters and ruffled feathers.

Joe Hack is a friend. He is family. I wish him only the best as he meets new challenges and faces new adventures in his life.

Thank you, Joe.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CELEA POITRA AND GAHGE WHITEMANRUNSHIM

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week, I have the honor of recognizing Celea Poitra and Gahge Whitemanrunshim of Big Horn County for courageously stepping up to help others in the face of danger. They exhibit strong Montana values, and their dedication to helping others is admirable.

Celea and Gahge were in their grandmother's pickup truck heading to a dental appointment on Saturday, February 27, 2021, when they witnessed devastating 30-vehicle pileup on the Yellowstone River Bridge outside Billings, MT. Dozens of vehicles crashed into each other on the icy interstate highway bridge. After their truck came to a stop, Celea and Gahge saw a vehicle with a mother and two kids hanging partially off the guardrail of the bridge. Celea and Gahge did not hesitate to step in and help. However, the impact from other vehicles hitting the pile-up knocked both of them off of the bridge, and they fell to the ground about 60 feet below.

They sustained serious injuries when they fell and are recovering in Billings' hospital. Celea was treated for a broken back, lacerated kidney, and other injuries. She was in an intensive care unit and is expected to need multiple surgeries. Gahge suffered a fractured neck, punctured lung, and other injuries. Their grandmother and guardian, Joan, stated that it is very much in her children's nature to go out of their way to help someone.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Celea and Gahge for demonstrating such bravery to help others in need and I pray for their swift recovery. Their selflessness serves as an inspiration to all Montanans. •

REMEMBERING MARLENE BANE

• Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the life of Ms. Marlene Bane.

Marlene answered the highest calling of dedication to her country, her State, and her local community. Along with her husband, Assemblyman Tom Bane, she carved out a unique niche in State government through a blend of intelligence, soft-spoken charm, organization, and, most of all, dear friends and